

**Developmental Disabilities Council  
Community Development Workgroup  
DRAFT MINUTES  
September 20, 2007**

Present: Erin Platts (Chair), Kelly Boston, Leo Finnegan, and Larry Garman

Absent: David Kludt, Patty McDonald and Alicia McRae.

Staff: Ed Holen, Brian Dahl and Eva Rooks

Call to order/agenda/approval of minutes

Erin Platts called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.  
July meeting minutes were approved as published.

Big Picture Work plan and Updates

Ed updated the workgroup on the progress on the Homeownership RFP. Proposals for the project are due to the Council on October 5. The plan is to have the proposals scored and contracts negotiated around November 1. There are two RFPs: one for running the new project and one to provide technical assistance to the project.

Ed Holen told the workgroup that Eva Rooks would be the lead staff person for Community Development but that he and Brian would continue to participate in and provide support for the Community Development workgroup.

## Projects/Activities Updates

### **Homeownership**

Ed shared that the rising sub-prime rates are affecting people's ability to own their own homes. He offered that using Spokane's pilot as a model for homeownership and to provide technical assistance to a new grantee would be very smart. He also shared that Pierce County and King County have leveraged some homeownership activities on their own. Larry wondered if other state councils addressing housing issues may be useful to collaborate with. In regards to the Homeownership RFP process, Ed expressed a desire to look at the bidder's list. The current bidder's list is not attracting enough bidders. Ed said he felt the bidder's list needed to be cleaned up and suggested that a work group might be formed to address this specific issue

### **Core Indicators**

Eva shared the progress to date on this year's Core Indicators Panel. This year the Panel will be

reviewing data from the Adult Family Survey (adults with developmental disabilities living in their family's home) and the Family Guardian Survey (adults with developmental disabilities living outside their family's home, but not in an institution). Eva reported that the panel had met once and would be meeting twice in October. She offered to provide a report to the Community Development Workgroup at the November meeting.

### **Informing Families Building Trust**

Ed shared that the funding from the Division to the Council for the project is almost gone. Ed has requested additional money to continue the project over the next 2 years. Ed is also working with contractors and stakeholders to identify ways to increase access to the site and usability of information for families.

### Transportation Amendment Update

Ed reported that the transportation amendment has been sent to the federal government and is awaiting approval. Ed expected approval soon.

### Workgroup Legislative Issues for 2008 Session

The workgroup reviewed the four key items for the Council's Legislative agenda:

1. DD Ombudsman

2.Children Needing Intensive Behavior Support Services

3.Endowment Trust fund

4.Including disability history in general school curriculum.

Ed shared that the council was requesting more money from the Legislature for the Trust fund because of the high number of trusts that have been opened. The original bequest of the legislature was to help fund trusts for \$1,000 families. The trust is already at over 900 trusts, so the available slots will be filled soon. Ed shared that the DDLOT is also trying to create a charitable foundation so that corporations and individuals can designate funds to help fund additional accounts. The workgroup was interested in learning what the Division is learning from the data collected in the DDD assessment.

Bob Beckham from DDD was identified as a possible resource for a discussion with the workgroup (or a combined workgroup) about the data from the assessments collected to date.

Leo expressed concern about the number of sheltered workshops that are closing. Sometimes individuals are given about a week's warning that their workshop is closing which doesn't give adequate times for planning. Leo expressed concern about what individuals will be doing once these workshops are closed. Larry added that he

was concerned about whether the jobs that individuals with DD are being trained for will be obsolete and wondered whether the system is preparing these kids with skills for the jobs of the future. Kelly Boston shared that DVR has had considerable success working directly with employers in new partnerships. Big employers, such as Sacred Heart in Spokane and Swedish hospital are working with individuals with DD while they are still in high school. These students get a chance to rotate through different areas of the hospital and hopefully are hired at a department of the hospital after they graduate.

### Inclusion Policies

A follow up discussion was held on Inclusion – focusing specifically on 2 issues: segregation and poverty

### Agenda for Next Meeting

- Guardianship
- Inclusion discussion (continuing)
- Core Indicator Survey
- Update on RFPs

With that, the meeting was adjourned.